

CLAIMS

1. A jewellery alloy as hereinbefore defined, comprising 76-83.5 wt% gold and 16.5-21.5 wt% aluminium, and having a substantially purple hue.
2. A jewellery alloy according to claim 1, having a hardness substantially similar to that of the intermetallic compound Au_3Al (78.5 wt% Au and 21.5 wt% Al).
3. A jewellery alloy according to claim 2, in which the hardness is within 6% of the hardness of the intermetallic compound Au_3Al .
4. A jewellery alloy according to any one of the preceding claims, consisting of more than 78.5wt% and up to and including 83.5 wt% gold and a balance of aluminium.
5. A jewellery alloy according to any one of claims 1 to 15 3, further comprising an additional element selected from the group consisting of palladium and nickel.
6. A jewellery alloy according to claim 5, in which the aluminium content is 18.5-19.5 wt%.
7. A jewellery alloy according to claim 6, wherein the gold to aluminium ratio is at least 3.66.
8. A jewellery alloy according to claim 5, claim 6 or claim 7, wherein the additional element is palladium and is present in an amount of between 0.5 wt% and 4.0 wt%.
9. A jewellery alloy according to claim 5, claim 6 or 25 claim 7, wherein the additional element is nickel and is present in an amount of between 1.0 wt% and 2.0 wt%.
10. An article comprising a metal component, wherein the metal component comprises a jewellery alloy according to

Sub A3

any one of the preceding claims.

11. An article according to claim 10, wherein the article is selected from the group consisting of ornamental jewellery, medallions and coins.

Sub D1

5 12. A jewellery alloy substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying examples.

Sub A4

13. A jewellery alloy containing 16.5-21.5 wt% aluminium, 0-4.0 wt% palladium, 0-2 wt% nickel and balance gold (except for impurities and incidental elements).

10 14. An alloy containing 18.5-19.5 wt% aluminium, 0.5-4.0 wt% palladium and balance gold.

15. An alloy containing 18.5-19.5 wt% aluminium, 1.0-2.0 wt% nickel and balance gold